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Application No.: 10/729,969

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IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 1 (Original): An aberration correction liquid crystal device to be mounted in an optical pickup apparatus for applying a laser beam emitted from a laser light source onto different types of optical discs, and to be disposed on an optical axis of the laser beam, the device comprising:

a first electrode section to be placed on the side of the laser light source and having a first electrode pattern for correcting aberration concerning a first optical disc;

a second electrode section to be placed on the side of the optical disc and having a second electrode pattern for correcting aberration concerning a second optical disc different from the first optical disc in type; and

a liquid crystal being sandwiched between the first and the second electrode sections.

Claim 2 (Original): The device as claimed in claim 1, wherein in correcting the aberration concerning the first optical disc, the first electrode pattern is applied with a voltage and the second electrode pattern is placed in equipotential state.

Claim 3 (Original): The device as claimed in claim 1, wherein in correcting the aberration concerning the second optical disc, the second electrode pattern is applied with a voltage and the first electrode pattern is placed in equipotential state.

Claim 4 (Original): An optical pickup apparatus that read or write information from or onto different types of optical discs, the optical pickup apparatus comprising:

 a laser light source configured to emit a laser beam;

 an object lens configured to converge the laser beam on an optical disc; and

 an aberration correction liquid crystal device configured to be disposed between the laser light source and the object lens, and on an optical axis of the laser beam,

 wherein the aberration correction liquid crystal device comprises:

 a first electrode section to be placed on the side of the laser light source and having a first electrode pattern for correcting aberration concerning a first optical disc;

 a second electrode section to be placed on the side of the optical disc and having a second electrode pattern for correcting aberration concerning a second optical disc different from the first optical disc in type; and

 a liquid crystal being sandwiched between the first and the second electrode sections.

Claim 5 (Original): The optical pickup apparatus as claimed in claim 4, wherein in correcting the aberration concerning the first optical disc, the first electrode pattern is applied with a voltage and the second electrode pattern is placed in equipotential state.

Claim 6 (Original): The optical pickup apparatus as claimed in claim 4, wherein in correcting the aberration concerning the second optical disc, the second electrode pattern is applied with a voltage and the first electrode pattern is placed in equipotential state.

Claim 7 (New): The device as claimed in claim 1, wherein the first electrode pattern is specifically configured for correcting aberration concerning only the first optical disc, and wherein the second electrode pattern is specifically configured for correcting aberration concerning only the second optical disc.

Claim 8 (New): The optical pickup apparatus as claimed in claim 4, wherein the first electrode pattern is specifically configured for correcting aberration concerning only the first optical disc, and wherein the second electrode pattern is specifically configured for correcting aberration concerning only the second optical disc.